

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-DAY

The team and Legend are all sitting around the table. They all looks slightly anxious. Suddenly, the door opens, and The Brawn enters the room. He has a leg brace on and is being supported by a stout robot. Everyone looks relieved and happy.

LEGEND

The Brawn! You're back on two feet,
I see!

The Brawn smiles.

THE BRAWN

Well, mostly, anyways.

Hero runs up and hugs him.

HERO

We were so relieved to hear that
you were getting better!

THE BRAWN

The hospital actually wanted to
keep me longer, but I've been away
for long enough. This is my home.

NIGHTLURKER

We are grateful for your return. In
truth, keeping this city safe has
been no easy task in your absence.

Ivan remains sitting, putting on a guilty look. Jayde stands and helps The Brawn into a seat with her powers.

THE BRAWN

What's been going on while I was
gone?

JAYDE

Mostly, just the regular ArbeiVille
crimes, but there has also been
some unusual activity, as well.

THE BRAWN

How unusual?

Nightlurker shifts uncomfortably in his chair.

NIGHTLURKER

Um, there have been cases where I was unable to utilize my power over the dark magics. For reasons beyond my explanation, I was completely powerless.

JAYDE

And we've found this problem to be occurring more and more as time goes on.

THE BRAWN

Odd. Don't worry, Nighty! We'll figure this out! Ergh!

The Brawn looks pained as he moves his leg. Ivan looks panicked.

IVAN

Brown! Are you okay?

THE BRAWN

I'm fine. Just still getting used to being back on two legs.

IVAN

I'm sorry, Brown! This is all my fault! If I hadn't collapsed that building, you wouldn't have been hurt, which means you could've helped us these past few weeks, which means Nightlurker might not be having problems with his powers!

NIGHTLURKER

You are blaming yourself for my shortcomings?

HERO

Ivan, that's ridiculous.

Ivan looks stressed out.

BLACK (V.O.)

Of course it's our fault!
Everything is our fault! It all
ties back to us! The Brawn's
injuries, the team's recent
struggles, and Lucia being sick!

Ivan suddenly looks up. Nightlurker looks concerned.

IVAN
Ah! I need to leave! I forgot
something!

LEGEND
Ivan, wh-

Ivan jumps up and leaves the room.

HERO
What's with him?

THE BRAWN
Beats me.

Nightlurker sighs.

NIGHTLURKER
Of course. It's her.

LEGEND
Do you know something about this,
Vladimir?

NIGHTLURKER
Jayde, did you sense it?

JAYDE
I sensed a strong wave of mixed
emotions from him, but his aura is
impossible to read.

NIGHTLURKER
It is because of the voice in his
head. I cannot hear it, but I can
sense what it is saying. Ivan is
concerned about the health of his
love.

THE BAWN

You don't mean that living room
lamp, do you?

HERO

That's absurd! How can it get sick?
It's not alive!

Nightlurker sits up straighter.

NIGHTLURKER

Be more sensitive! I have witnessed
these kinds of curses before! They
are not to be taken so lightly!
Ivan is under the impression that
that lamp is the woman of his
dreams! He would do anything for
her!

JAYDE

So what do we do?

NIGHTLURKER

We support him. I am still
researching how to lift the curse,
but have not been successful.

Hero looks irritated. She folds her arms in a huff.

HERO

We could tell him his girlfriend
isn't real.

Nightlurker chastises her.

NIGHTLURKER

Only if you want to convince him
his mind is unstable, therefore
throwing him back into that place
where no mind belongs.

LEGEND

This argument isn't helping. We
will continue our work as always.
We'll figure something out in time.
If there is a mission, I will call
you. Until then, dismissed.

The team gets up and leaves. Nightlurker pulls out volume two of his magic books and studies it intently as he leaves. Jayde puts a hand on Hero's shoulder.

JAYDE

I know it's hard. Thank you for coming back when you did, anyways. We needed you.

Hero hunches her shoulders.

HERO

It's nice to know that Ivan's rebound is an inanimate object.

JAYDE

That's not his fault. Jaqui put him under that spell. He can't help it.

HERO

I know, it's just... weird.

THE BRAWN

You know what else is weird?
Nightlurker standing up for Street Ninja! I've never seen that before!
I wonder why.

JAYDE

Vladimir has seem pretty much everything when it comes to black magic...

INT. IVAN'S ROOM-DAY

Ivan enters his room. Lucia is lying in a corner, wrapped up in blankets. She is slightly see-through. Ivan approaches her and kneels by her side.

IVAN

Lucia, sorry I was gone so long.
How are you feeling?

Lucia smiles and grabs Ivan's hand.

LUCIA

I'm doing alright. I actually feel a lot better.

IVAN

Really?

LUCIA

Yes.

Ivan bends down and gives her a kiss.

IVAN

I love you, Lucia.

Lucia looks slightly guilty. She sighs.

LUCIA

I love you too, Ivan.

Suddenly, Ivan's watch beeps. Legend's voice emits from it.

LEGEND (V.O.)

Unstoppables! Hodolph and Jaqui
have been spotted! They're headed
straight for The Tower! Stop them!

IVAN

Hodolph and Jaqui again? Man, those
two just won't give up, will they?

Ivan kisses Lucia once more, then gets up and opens the window.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

Ivan climbs on the outside of the building, looking around. Suddenly, a loud crash is heard below. Ivan heads down to investigate.

The Brawn leans up against a dumpster in an alley, panting heavily. He has scratches and bruises on him. Hodolph walks forward, toting a spiky sword.

HODOLPH

You're not so tough without that
leg of yours, are you?

THE BRAWN

I'm not gonna let you pass,
Hodolph! You're stupid for trying

(MORE)

THE BRAWN (CONT'D)
to launch an attack on a building
full of super heroes!

HODOLPH
You mistake me, strong man! I'm
here for a very specific purpose!

IVAN (O.S.)
Like getting the stuffing beat out
of you?!

Ivan jumps down from above and lays a punch across
Hodolph's face. Ivan lands near The Brawn.

IVAN
I've got it covered from here,
Buddy! You need to get somewhere
safe!

THE BRAWN
No way, man! Unstoppables never run
from a fight!

IVAN
But Brawn! You're hurt!

THE BRAWN
Heroes get hurt, kid! Stop trying
to single-handedly save the world!
That's what a team is for!

Hodolph picks himself back up.

HODOLPH
Ah, Street Ninja! Just the hero I
wanted to see! How's that lady
friend of yours? Not dead yet, I
hope?

Ivan snarls at him.

IVAN
What're you talking about? Do you
know something?

HODOLPH

Eh, I might. That all depends. How far are you willing to go to save her?

IVAN

What did you do to Lucia?!

Ivan pulls out a sword. As he does so, the rest of the team shows up. Hodolph chuckles.

HODOLPH

Ah, so all of you are here, then? I wonder who's guarding your precious Lucia?

He turns his head to look at The Tower. Ivan looks up as well, and sees Jaqui standing on a hoverboard, breaking into Ivan's room through the window. Without hesitation, Ivan jumps towards her, but is blown back by the spiky sword that Hodolph throws at him.

HERO

Street Ninja!

HODOLPH

Ah, he'll be fine. Although, by the time he wakes up, I will have dealt with all of you!

Hodolph pulls out a sword handle.

HODOLPH

This was a gift from an old friend!
You might recognize it!

He presses a button, and a glowing purple blade erupts from the handle.

NIGHTLURKER

He is in posession of a sword similar to Street Ninja's!

JAYDE

Must be a gift from when he knew Willis! Let's take him out!

THE BRAWN

What about Jaqui?

HERO
I'll deal with her!

Hero pulls out a grappling hook and shoots it above. She swoops away. Jayde's hands glow light green as she begins to fight Hodolph. Hodolph uses his sword to block her psychic punches. Nightlurker stretches out his hands, and they begin to glow black, but quickly fade.

NIGHTLURKER
Oh, no! Not again!

THE BRAWN
It's alright! I got this!

The Brawn lumbers forward and helps Jayde fight. Ivan, lying next to the spiked sword on the ground, slowly heals.

EXT. SMOKY EXPANSE-DAY

The air is foggy and the sky is red. An orange sun hangs low in the sky. There is a horned demon standing before a large gate. He looks bored. Suddenly, Ivan appears beside him.

BRADLEY
Oh! Ivan! Back again?

IVAN
What? Oh. Hey, Bradley. Yeah, looks like I got killed again.

BRADLEY
Don't worry! You'll be back among the living in no time!

IVAN
I know, I just... Being temporarily dead is kind of a pain. I'm completely useless until I heal.

BRADLEY
It's better than being permanently dead.

IVAN
Got a point there, man.

Ivan sighs and takes a seat on the ground next to the demon. They bump fists.

BRADLEY

So what's the deal, man? You've been dying a lot more often than usual.

IVAN

I deserve it. The team is struggling, and it's all my fault.

BRADLEY

What do you mean?

IVAN

The Brawn just got back from the hospital, and he's already been beat up again. And Nightlurker is having problems with his magic. Plus, Lucia is sick, and I can't figure out what's wrong with her.

BLACK (V.O.)

What's wrong with her, is that she's not real, man.

The demon chuckles.

BRADLEY

Dude in your head's got a point, Ivan. There is no Lucia.

IVAN

That can't be right.

The demon shrugs.

BRADLEY

I know as much as you do.

IVAN

So... Is this the gate to heaven, or hell, or what?

BRADLEY

Haha Ivan! You ask me this every time!

IVAN

Cuz I still don't get it!

BRADLEY

I am the gatekeeper. Beyond this gate, it's limbo. Once you die, I mean for real, then you can come in here. Then you'll be judged or whatever, and sent to heaven or hell from there.

IVAN

Okay, because this doesn't really look like what I imagined heaven would look like.

BRADLEY

Nah, but this place is pretty cool, too. Hey, remember when you first came here?

IVAN

It's been too long. And I come here too often.

BLACK (V.O.)

We remember! We jumped out of the top floor of The Tower after Hero slapped Beak Face for calling us a freak!

IVAN

Oh, yeah.

BRADLEY

I thought you were just another dead guy. But when you weren't allowed in, I was totally confused! Then you went back to life! It's nice to have a friend that comes and goes.

IVAN

Does it get pretty lonely here, then?

BRADLEY

What do you think?

Ivan nods. Suddenly, he looks up.

IVAN

Well, my time here is up.

BRADLEY

Oh! Right. See you later, then?

IVAN

Yeah. See you.

The demon and Ivan bump fists again. Then Ivan disappears. The demon slumps his shoulders and sighs.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

Ivan opens his eyes. Jayde and Nightlurker are leaning over him.

JAYDE

Oh, good! You're awake!

IVAN

Lucia! Where is she?!

Ivan stands up and looks around. Everyone has scratches and bruises, Hodolph and Jaqui are gone. The Brawn is lying on the ground, and Hero crouches near him.

IVAN

What happened?

NIGHTLURKER

Jaqui look the la- uh, Lucia, and then the two of them retreated.

The Brawn coughs.

THE BRAWN

Although, they did get in a few good punches before they left.

IVAN

They took Lucia? Why would they want her?

Jayde shrugs. Ivan looks at his beat up friends. Then he looks at himself, without a scratch.

IVAN

And here I am again, unscathed,
while everyone else is injured.

HERO

Are you kidding? You were a bloody
splat on the ground! You took the
most damage!

IVAN

That's just it! I should be taking
all the hits! I can heal myself! I
should be the one fighting, so none
of you have to get hurt!

JAYDE

We're heroes, Ivan. We knew we were
going to get hurt when we signed up
for this job. It's not your
responsibility to protect everyone
all the time.

Ivan sighs. Then he puts on a determined look as he stands up.

NIGHTLURKER

Where are you going?

IVAN

I have to find Lucia! They can't
take her away from me!

HERO

Calm down, Ivan. We'll rescue...
her. But we need a plan. We need to
regroup.

The Brawn gets up and the team gathers into a little circle, sitting on the ground. The Brawn chuckles.

THE BRAWN

Look at us. We got our cans kicked
by Hodolph, of all people.

Nightlurker and Jayde allow small smiles of irony. Ivan sighs. He tenses.

IVAN
If he or Jaqui do anything to hurt
Lucia, I'll-!

The Brawn puts a large hand on Ivan's shoulder.

THE BRAWN
What was that about, anyways? Does
Hodolph know what's wrong with
Lucia?

NIGHTLURKER
Perhaps Jaqui is manipulating the
spell...

IVAN
What spell?

NIGHTLURKER
Er, nothing. Just thinking out
loud.

JAYDE
Alright. We need to think of a
plan. Hodolph and Jaqui are on the
loose again, which means they're up
to no good. We need to find them
and put a stop to them.

HERO
They wouldn't be stupid enough to
go back to their old warehouse
again... would they?

Everyone looks up at her.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-AFTERNOON

The sky is covered with clouds, and a light rain has begun to pour. The team rides in The Unstoppable Car. The windshield wipers make the only noise besides the raindrops. Hero drives, while Nightlurker leans back in his chair, his top hat pulled over his face. His right foot rests in Jayde's lap, and she dabs some cream from a tube

onto some cuts on his foot. Nightlurker winces.

NIGHTLURKER

It stings...

JAYDE

I'm sorry. But I promise it'll make it feel better. This cream I picked up from Legend is supposed to escalate the healing process.

The Brawn sits up in his chair.

THE BRAWN

You think that stuff would work on my leg?

JAYDE

It's only meant for minor cuts and bruises. I'll take care of yours next, if you want!

THE BRAWN

Okay!

Ivan sighs as he looks out the window.

BLACK (V.O.)

She's not real.

Ivan makes an annoyed face and turns more towards the window.

BLACK (V.O.)

We just don't want us to get hurt... again.

INT. WEAPONRY-AFTERNOON

There are tools, parts, machinery, and weapons strewn about the room. Willis adjusts a device on a table and pushes a button. It projects a faded bubble. Willis sighs.

WILLIS

I'm getting close! I need more power to make the teleporter work!

He looks around the room, and picks up a few parts, whipping together another device. He plugs it into the first device. Then he tries it again. The same result as before occurs.

WILLIS

Tsk! Alright, maybe a new approach.

Suddenly thunder rumbles outside. Willis looks up.

WILLIS

Thunder... Lightning! That should do the trick!

Willis gathers up the device and a bunch of chords into his arms, and leaves the room.

INT. WAREHOUSE-AFTERNOON

Hodolph sets up a strange-looking satellite device in a corner of the room. Jaqui walks in, smiling.

JAQUI

The Unstoppable Car is on the way.
Are you ready?

HODOLPH

Yes. This plan will not fail! Do
you have... her?

Jaqui laughs and points to a tall tower of crates. On top, the living room lamp is tied up with ropes to a support beam of the warehouse. Hodolph laughs in response.

HODOLPH

Street Ninja will be like putty in
my hands!

JAQUI

And Nightlurker will be completely
powerless, finally!

IVAN (O.S.)

You two really are stupid, aren't
you?!

The team appears in the large entryway. Hodolph and Jaqui turn to them.

IVAN

It's like you're trying to get caught! You keep coming back to the same warehouse when you escape!

HODOLPH

What makes you think we were trying to hide from you, Unstoppables?

Hodolph approaches them unarmed and smiling.

HODOLPH

You see, Jaqui and I became married quite recently, and thought you might enjoy celebrating this happy time with us. How about a game?

JAYDE

We're not here to humor you, Hodolph. You can both spend your honeymoon in jail!

JAQUI

How terribly rude! And after all the preparations we made for their arrival, too!

IVAN

Cut the crap!

Everyone turns to Ivan as he draws out an enejatō.

IVAN

I'm only gonna ask this once!
Where's Lucia?

JAQUI

I'm afraid she's part of our little game! Here's the object of the game. If you surrender, we win. If we surrender, you win?

THE BRAWN

What happens if we win?

HODOLPH

Then we'll gladly go to jail and
promise never to wreck havoc again!
And if we win, Street Ninja I'll
become my nemesis, and... well,
we'll cross that bridge when we get
there.

IVAN

Is that what this is about?! Being
my stupid nemesis? I could care
less about that!

BLACK (V.O.)

Shut up and fight!

Ivan roars and runs at Hodolph, who stands calmly. Ivan holds both of his enejatōs at Hodolph's neck.

IVAN

Tell me where Lucia is, now!

HODOLPH

Tsk! Tsk! No cheating, now!

Hodolph holds up a small remote and pushes a button. The sattelite dish in the corner turns on and emits a high-pitched frequency. Hodolph and Jaqui both put on special headphones. The team collapses, covering their ears.

NIGHTLURKER

Aah! What is that noise?!

HERO

My head feels like it might
explode!

EXT. THE TOWER BALCONY-NIGHT

Willis sets up the teleportation device under an umbrella and hooks it up to a lightning rod. He switches it on.

WILLIS

Alright! Let's see if this will
work!

The faint noise of the frequency can be heard. Willis checks the device.

WILLIS

Odd. The device is picking up some kind of frequency waves.

Willis picks up the device, and it begins sparking. Suddenly, a bolt of lightning strikes the lightning rod and Willis cries out in pain. The device makes a portal, and Willis and the device suddenly disappear.

INT. WAREHOUSE-NIGHT

The storm picks up. Ivan removes his hands from his head and throws a shuriken at the sattelite. The frequency lowers to a hum. Ivan staggers, and Hodolph laughs.

HODOLPH

Feeling a little queasy, are we?

Hodolph kicks Ivan in the gut. Ivan flops over onto his side, groaning in pain. Hero drags herself to her feet and pulls out a gun. Her hand shakes as she points it at Hodolph. She pulls the trigger, and the shot misses. Hodolph flinches and turns to her.

HODOLPH

Thank goodness the frequency from my sattelite confuses brain wave patterns! We can't have you shooting anyone you might regret!

Hodolph pushes a button, and a large bucket from above tips over and drenches Hero in water. Hero gasps.

HERO

My gunpowder! It's all wet!

Nightlurker reaches out his hand, but nothing happens. He curses under his breath and turns to Jayde, who is lying on the ground, uncontious.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde! The frequencies must have been more sensitive to her psychic brain! Wake up, Jayde!

Jaqui stands over him.

JAQUI

You pathetic excuse for a magician!
Where's all your magic, now? I've
gotta say, it took quite a while to
make the device strong enough to
dissipate the flow of magic on this
scale!

NIGHTLURKER

So that is the reason my magic
abilities have been failing! You
were testing your infernal device!

JAQUI

That's right! Of course, the
frequencies destroyed all my
magical abilities as well, but I
won't need them anymore.

Jaqui turns to Hodolph. Nightlurker makes a face as he
pulls himself into a standing position.

NIGHTLURKER

How can you love such a man as him?
You used to be so different!

Jaqui smiles.

JAQUI

I love him because of you,
Vladimir. You taught me what kind
of man I really wanted. You were
too weak to want what I wanted.
Power!

Jaqui lunges at Nightlurker. He jumps away and dodges her
attacks.

The Brawn rolls onto his side. Hero comes to his aid.

HERO

Brawn! You okay?

THE BRAWN

Yeah, just a little dizzy. We gotta
wreck that machine! It's still
doing weird stuff.

HERO

You go bust it, then. I'll help
Jayde.

The Brawn gets up, and limps towards the machine. Hodolph beats up on Ivan.

HODOLPH

How can you just take all of this,
Street Ninja? I thought you were
powerful! I was expecting so much
more from you! After all I've done
to you, how can you not accept me
as your nemesis?!

Hodolph kicks him away. Ivan simply heals and sits up, looking at Hodolph.

IVAN

Sure, you've put me through a load
of stuff through this year, but
that's nothing compared what I live
with in my brain every day!

Hodolph looks uncertain.

IVAN

I'm a mentally unstable freak,
saving a city I'm not even from,
from goons like you!

Ivan stands up.

IVAN

And yet, I still have to thank you.

HODOLPH

Thank me? Why?

IVAN

For introducing me to the love of
my life. Now, if you know what's
good for you, you'll let her go.
Letting you beat up on me has used
up a lot of your energy, so
fighting you won't be half as
difficult, now.

Hodolph realizes Ivan's plan, as Ivan takes out his swords again. He backs up as Ivan slowly advances.

Hero kneels down next to Jayde.

HERO

Jayde! Wake up! We could use some extra help now!

Jayde groans.

HERO

Jayde! Nightlurker is in trouble!

Jayde's eyes fly open. She sits up. She looks and sees Jaqui and Nightlurker fighting. Nightlurker looks beat up. Jaqui swings around and kicks him.

JAQUI

What's the matter, Vlad? Don't know how to fight?

NIGHTLURKER

I must admit I never needed to know how to fight hand-to-hand until this moment, and even then, I cannot use physical combat against a woman.

JAQUI

At least you're still a gentleman. What a shame.

Jaqui winds up for a punch, but suddenly, a teal aura surrounds her, and she punches herself in the face. Jayde jumps up from behind her and the two begin fighting.

THE BRAWN

Wha-ho! Cat fight!

IVAN

What?!

All the men stop what they're doing to watch the women fight. Hero scoffs.

HERO

Brawn! Focus! It's not like you
haven't seen two women fight
before!

THE BRAWN
It's still a sight to see, though!

Hodolph takes a step forward to assist his wife, but Ivan holds out a sword, stopping him. Ivan doesn't look away.

IVAN
My money's on Jayde!

HODOLPH
You've got to be joking! ... How much money are we talking?

Jaqui and Jayde continue their fight. Jayde glances at the others in annoyance.

JAYDE
Don't make me come over there, you idiots!

The men snap back to what they were doing. Ivan and Hodolph continue their fight, while The Brawn finally makes it to the machine. He lifts a fist.

HODOLPH
I wouldn't do that if I were you!

HERO
Don't listen to him, The Brawn!
Just do it!

HODOLPH
Then Ivan can kiss his true love
goodbye!

Ivan stops fighting.

IVAN
What did you say?

HODOLPH
That's right! If that machine is destroyed, it will set off a time
(MORE)

HODOLPH (CONT'D)
bomb, set for thirty seconds! The explosion is rather small, I admit, due to the fact that I am rather fond of this warehouse, but your precious Lucia will be dead!

HERO
So what? Brawn! Do it!

IVAN
No!

HERO
Ivan, she's just a lamp! We need to get rid of the device or the frequencies will keep messing us up!

IVAN
No!

Ivan tackles Hodolph.

IVAN
Tell me where she is! Now!

HODOLPH
Never!

BLACK (V.O.)
Let us out! We'll teach him not to mess with us!

HERO
Brawn, do it!

The Brawn looks uncertain. Ivan glowers at Hero, who puts on a determined look in response. Nightlurker runs forward.

NIGHTLURKER
Do not damage the machine, The Brawn!

HERO
You're siding with him?

NIGHTLURKER

We are all on the same side, Hero.
Do not forget that.

LUCIA (O.S.)
Ivan?

Ivan's ears twitch. He lifts his head.

IVAN
I can hear her!

HERO
What?

HODOLPH
What?

Ivan stands up.

LUCIA (O.S.)
I... Ivan?

IVAN
Lucia! I'm here! Where are you?

LUCIA (O.S.)
Over here...

Ivan jumps away. Hodolph stands.

HODOLPH
This was not part of the plan!

He stands up, and sees that The Brawn, Hero, and Nightlurker are looming over him.

HODOLPH
Uh-oh...

Ivan runs to one side of the warehouse.

IVAN
Don't worry, honey! I'll find you!
Just keep talking!

LUCIA (O.S.)
D-don't worry about me, Ivan. Take
care of Hodolph and Jaqui!

Ivan climbs up the pile of crates.

IVAN

The team is taking care of them,
Lucia. Everything will be fine.

Ivan makes it to the top. He sees Lucia, who is tied to the beam. She is very faded, and looks exhausted.

IVAN

Lucia! Are you alright?

LUCIA

Oh, Ivan. I feel awful. I think
your subconscious is starting to
realize I'm not real.

IVAN

No! Sweetie, of course you're real!
I love you!

LUCIA

At least I get to see you again,
before-

Ivan puts a finger to her lips.

IVAN

Don't talk like that. I'll get you
out of here and take you home.
Everything will be fine.

Ivan begins to untie Lucia. Jayde gives Jaqui a psychic punch. Jaqui lifts herself back up and smiles.

JAQUI

Of course. I should've realized
before. Vlad said he was seeing
someone. It's you, isn't it?

Jayde looks surprised, then angry.

JAYDE

No, and that's none of your
business!

Jaqui lets out a laugh.

JAQUI

Oh, I see! It's not you, and that's
why you're so upset!

JAYDE

You don't know what you're talking
about!

Jayde hits her again, and she flies backwards. Hodolph gasps.

HODOLPH

It wasn't supposed to happen this
way!

He charges The Brawn, who is leaning to spare his weak leg. He and The Brawn topple over and crash land into the sattelite device, destroying it. A ticking noise emits from Lucia. She gasps.

LUCIA

Ivan! The bomb! You need to get
away from here!

IVAN

Not without you! Where is it?

LUCIA

It's attached to me, under this
rope! But there's not enough time!

Ivan pulls out an enejatō and slices through the rope. There is a bomb strapped around her middle. There are only fifteen seconds left. He pulls at it, but it doesn't come off. Lucia cries.

LUCIA

Ivan, go! It's okay!

IVAN

No! No! It isn't fair! Lucia!

Lucia presses her lips against Ivan's, and then pushes herself away from him. Ivan tries to grab her, but she throws herself over the edge of the pile of crates. The bomb explodes as it hits the ground.

IVAN

LUCIAAAA!

Everyone is blown back by the explosion. Jaqui opens her eyes, just as Jayde uses her powers to bend a scrap of metal around her, trapping her. Hodolph groans, and realizes The Brawn is sitting on him. Ivan jumps down from the crates and digs through the debris. He looks horrified.

IVAN

Lucia! No! Where are you? Please be okay! Please!

Nightlurker looks at him pityingly as the rest of the team takes care of Hodolph and Jaqui. He approaches Ivan. Ivan uncovers a piece of a broken lamp. He gasps.

IVAN

I... I don't understand...

NIGHTLURKER

The spell is broken.

Ivan looks up at him. Then back down at the piece of lamp. He begins to cry.

IVAN

This is... all my fault...

NIGHTLURKER

No. If anyone's, the fault belongs to Hodolph.

Ivan hunches his shoulders. Then he growls as he stands.

IVAN

Hodolph-!

Nightlurker stops him.

NIGHTLURKER

Lucia wouldn't want this.

Ivan blinks. Then he crumples to the floor, letting out a loud roar of anguish. Nightlurker turns to Jayde, The Brawn, and Hero, who have the two criminals in handcuffs. Nightlurker nods to Jayde. She nods back, and she leads the two heroes and two criminals out. Nightlurker crouches next to Ivan.

NIGHTLURKER

Black Magic truly is a despicable thing, if misused.

Nightlurker begins gathering the pieces of the broken lamp together, putting them into a small, empty crate. Ivan lifts his head.

IVAN

What are you doing?

NIGHTLURKER

When I was very young, my mother died. My father was greatly interested in the black magics. In his grief after her death, my father cast this very same spell on himself. A painting of my mother was all he had of her, and he would talk to it as though it were her. I, being young, accepted that the spirit of my mother must have existed inside of it. One night, a terrible fire raged through our home, and consumed the painting. Not wanting to lose my mother again, he went back to rescue it, and died in the fire.

All is quiet for a moment as Nightlurker continues to gather the pieces of the lamp. Ivan lifts himself into a sitting position.

NIGHTLURKER

Black magic is what killed my father, as well as my mother. It can destroy lives. Although...

Nightlurker stands and picks up the crate. Ivan looks up at him.

NIGHTLURKER

The spell did make it easier on my father and I after my mother's passing, and Lucia made you happy after Hero left, so... black magic cannot be all bad, can it?

Nightlurker offers Ivan his hand, and he helps Ivan to his feet.

NIGHTLURKER

Lucia might not have been real, but your love and happiness with her was. I think the least we can do is give her a proper burial, yes?

Ivan bows his head and sniffs, nodding slightly. He and Nightlurker walk out into the night.

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-NIGHT

The team and Legend wait in the room. Hero looks miserable.

HERO

I was so stupid! I've been doing nothing but make Ivan miserable!

JAYDE

It's not your fault, Hero. If anyone, Hodolph is to blame.

THE BRAWN

I feel bad for the poor kid. But maybe things will go back to normal after this.

LEGEND

Ivan and normal? I'm not sure that's possible.

Nightlurker walks into the room, sitting beside Jayde silently.

JAYDE

Where is Street Ninja?

NIGHTLURKER

I told him to take a break. He went to his ninja village in the mountains.

LEGEND

That should be good for him.

NIGHTLURKER

There is a slight problem, however.

LEGEND

What's that?

NIGHTLURKER

Street Ninja has a new nemesis.

EXT. NINJA VILLAGE-MORNING

Obaasan sits on her small balcony and watches the sunrise, listening to her wind chimes. Suddenly, the door opens, and Ivan walks inside. She turns around and smiles at him.

OBAASAN (JAPANESE)

Keno! My son! Oh, how I've missed you!

Tears brim in Ivan's eyes. He falls to his knees.

IVAN (JAPANESE)

Obaasan...

OBAASAN (JAPANESE)

Keno, what's the matter?

She comes forward and wraps her arms around Ivan as he begins to sob.

OBAASAN (JAPANESE)

Everything is all right, Keno.

Everything is fine.

END.